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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Sovereign Lives.

A sentence from President ROOSE-VELT's speech on Tuesday at Fitchburg is food for reflection:

" I feel that we ought to have the aim before us of getting definitely some sovereign in whose courts those great corporations can be held to

The search for such courts need not be long. At this moment one of the greatest corporations in the country, the Northern Securities Company, is in Minnesota in a United States Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, answering to charges that it is unlawfully violating a statute of Minnesota; and this same corporation is also in the Supreme Court at Washington, answering to charges that it is violating a statute of the United States.

This is happening, be it remembered, under the Constitution without further amendments than existed at the time of the last Presidential election.

The Treasury and the Money Market

As everybody knows, there is, annually, at this season of the year a great demand for money in this country for the purpose of purchasing grain from the farmers or "moving" the crops This annual demand is almost invariably accompanied with more or less unsettlement of the country's finances and derangement of general business conditions. The farmers like to be paid in eash for their products and, to a large extent, they desire the cash in the form of small bills, so that they can pay their hired men and settle their accounts at the stores. The money thus furnished is drawn,, necessarily, from the great financial centres. It makes very little difference whether the money is actually owned by the West and has been previously loaned out in the East or whether it is money that the East is required to furnish out of its own pocket for the farmers' purposes; in the fall of the year there is a great compulsory movement of money Westward. As money grows scarce in the East, rates for its use increase, national banks are forced to contract their loans to keep within the reserve limit of cash on hand fixed by the national banking laws, and financial disturbance takes place.

All this could be obviated, of course, if our currency system was arranged on some other than the present complicated and unscientific basis. But for the present there seems to be small hope of remedying the evils of this system, and the banks and great financial interests have to get along with the yearly difficulty as best they can. We think, therefore, that very great praise should be visited upon the efforts of the Secretary of the Treasury this year to minimize this financial disturbance as far as it is within his power so to do. The peculiarity of Secretary SHAW's action in the present instance is that it is the first time in our recollection that the Secretary of the Treasury has made anything like prevision against the crop-moving

season.

One of the most natural methods of helping matters-even though the help may not go very far-is of increasing the bank-note circulation. The banknote circulation of the country is, of course, far within the limits that it may possibly attain with the aggregate capital of banks as large as it is; but the reason why bank-note circulation is so small is that, as banks have to secure their circulating notes by a deposit of Government bonds with the Secretary of the Treasury at Washington, they cannot expect great profit, if any, from the operation while these bonds are selling at a high premium in the market and while the taxes and other expenses attendant upon the operation are so great. In other words, the cost of taking out the circulation is prohibitive. Moreover, of the Government bonds on which it is worth while to issue circulation at present prices, the only class is practically the Government "twos;" and of the \$434,000,000 of Government "twos" in existence, \$405,000,000 are already in the Treasury as deposits against existing circulation. It is doubtful if very many of the remainder can be utilized by banks for circulation purposes, even assuming that they would find it desirable to do so. When money rates are high there is obviously a greater profit to the banks in taking out circulation than when money rates are low, and therefore when the Westward drain of funds in the fall sets in money rates rise in the financial centres and the bank-note circulation of the country increases. It does not increase, however, nearly as much as it should, for the reason that it takes many weeks, sometimes many months. for the Treasury Department to engrave and print the bank notes after the orders for them have been received; and then the time in which the banks may find profit in the additional circulation will probably have elapsed. What Secretary SHAW has done, therefore, has been to suggest to the banks that they send in tentative orders for additional circulation, to be made actual orders if occasion arises; and the Secretary has ordered the engraving department of the Treasury to go ahead and get the notes ready, so that they can be had on demand when the banks want them. Whether or not any very great relief to the business community from

high money rates will be afforded by

this action matters very little. The

attitude of public criticism at the pres-

ent juncture should be one of unqualified commendation of the willing and helpful spirit displayed by Secretary SHAW.

There is another matter to which Secretary SHAW may sooner or later very wisely direct his attention. At present the banks of the country hold about \$120,000,000 of Government money deposited with them on the collateral security of Government bonds, in order to prevent the inordinate accumulation of Government money in the vaults of the Treasury. There is nothing in the laws of the United States which restricts to ity demanded by the Secretary of the Treasury for this purpose. The provisions of the statute governing the deposit of public money with national banks is that the Secretary of the Treasury shall require " satisfactory security by the deposit of United States bonds and otherwise." This clearly does not limit the Secretary to the acceptance of United States bonds, solely, as security. Everybody having the smallest acquaintance with finance knows that there are plenty of first mortgage bonds on railways in this country which, taken at a proper percentage of their value, would, equally with Government bonds, secure the Government against any loss by reason of money deposited with banks or any other custodian. Why should not the Secretary of the Treasury offer to leave money on deposit with approved national banks on the security of railway bonds of this character? There is no reason why he should not, so far as we can find, except that no Secretary of the Treasury has had the courage to do it in the past. The fact about the matter is that our Treasury system is in many important particulars outworn, and if it is to be based upon a normal condition of keeping the public money impounded in Government vaults it must contain provision for putting some proportion

The South and the Democratic Candidate for the Presidency.

occasion arises.

of this money into circulation when

The question of the advisability of going to the South for the next Democratic candidate for President is discussed in Democratic papers, but, so far as we have observed, they are papers at the North rather than at the South. Such attention as is given to it by Southern editors is confined usually to the reprinting of suggestions by their Northern political brethren, with no comment, ne way or the other.

At any rate, there comes from the Democratic South no general demand for special recognition in the next Presidential nomination. The candidates favorably discussed there are almost invariably Northern Democrats, though we do not find any significant Southern agreement on any one of them. The South seems disposed to continue the policy it has pursued since the Civil War of refraining from any expression on the subject that could be construed as dictatorial or suggestive of anything approaching a purpose to assert the right the party to which the South as the ators agreeing to adopt his conclusions.

backbone of Democracy is so plainly As an example of this Southern reserve, a recent argument by the Washthe South to assert itself as the indubitable " master of the situation," by insisting on the nomination of a Southern candidate for President in 1904, has not drawn out from the South any such response to its flattering conclusion as might have been expected. The Washington paper had used as a text a remark made at Pittsburg about a week ago by State Senator THOMAS F. GRADY, the favorite Tammany orator, to the effect that "Tammany wants a Southerner nominated for President by the Demoeratic convention." His assurance that Tammany " would support a good Southern man" was undoubtedly sincere, and it was justified. That a Southern candidate would be more agreeable to Tammany than any of the Northern Democrats suggested for the nomination. certainly than any of those among the Democrats of New York, may be assumed. Mr. BRYAN is deceiving himself if he is putting any reliance on Tammany devotion to his fortunes. Mr. HILL is far from the Tammany heart. Mr. SHEPARD was its last candidate for

the nomination to the Presidency whom it is eager to follow. Naturally, of course, the South should dictate the Democratic nomination for President. It will represent in the National Convention more than two-thirds of the assured electoral votes. Of the present Democratic delegation in Congress, about five-sixths in the Senate and two-thirds in the House of Representatives are from the South. That under such circumstances the South should stand modestly aside and leave the selection of the candidate nominated to the relatively feeble Democracy of the North is an anomaly in our politics; yet so far as we discern Southern Democratic sentiment, as represented in the papers of those States, no considerable disposition to do otherwise is now mani-

Mayor, but he is not a sort of man Tam-

many cares for; and there is no other

New York Democrat now pushing for

fested at the South. First of all and above all, the South wants to win the election, and, apparently, misgiving as to the reception which the North would give to a Southern candidate still prevails over the natural pride which would tempt the South to exercise its right and use its unquestioned ability to dictate the nomination of a Southern man as the next Democratic candidate for President.

Pine Trees on the Sand Hills.

About 15,000,000 acres in northwestern Nebraska are so sandy as to be unfit for tillage. Two-thirds of this region is still the property of the National Government. About twelve years ago the State Board of Agriculture and the Nebraska Geological Survey began to study the sand hills from a scientific point of view. and reported that it was believed to be possible to cover large tracts of this country with trees and shrubs from chusetts regions.

which a good revenue might eventually be derived. Mr. HICKS of the Geological Survey also reported that the foresting of the sand hills would probably lead to considerable economic

results. The National Government, therefore, sent a large number of Scotch, Austrian, rock and jack pines, which were set out in furrows in one of the worst locations the sand hills in the southwestern part of Holt county. Practically all of these trees have thrived. The Scotch and Austrian pines have now attained a height of six to eight feet, the rock Government bonds the collateral secur- pines four to six feet and the jack pines twelve to eighteen feet. The trees are now entering upon the period of their most rapid growth, their thriving appearance shows that they are well adapted to the conditions and the Division of Forestry reports that they are certain, unless burned out, to attain suitable size for lumbering. These varieties of the pine tree, it is declared, are perfectly adapted for hundreds of thousands of acres in the sand hills, where the natural conditions are the same as those under which the present forest is growing.

It is proposed to continue the work that is so promising. An extensive forest in the sand hills would be of great value to the region where it exists and also have a favorable influence upon the winds and temperature of a large part of western Nebraska and thus upon the agricultural conditions there. The forest itself would yield, in fifteen or twenty years, fuel and posts, the timber would be large enough in twenty-five or thirty years for telegraph poles and railroad ties and thereafter, if properly managed, would be a source of continual

The possibility of turning a large and worthless area into a region of great utility has been demonstrated. It is an interesting illustration of the efforts, now constantly widening, to reclaim the waste places of the country and turn them to good account. In view of the progress that is being made in this direction, we cannot say that any region in our land will not some day be found capable of adding to the general wealth.

Commissioner Wright's Report. The report to the President upon the anthracite coal strike by Commissioner CARROLL D. WRIGHT gives to the public absolutely nothing new in the way of information, excepting as to Mr. WRIGHT'S own conclusions thereon. They are, briefly:

There should be an anthracite miners' union independent of the United Mine Workers of America: It would be well if the operators

conceded a nine-hour day as an experiment. There should be a general committee of conciliation whose first duty would be to enter upon a thorough examination

and investigation. There should be no interference with

It will be seen that the value of Commissioner WRIGHT's report is wholly of domination in the national council of | conditional on the miners and the oper-

The Third Leaf.

Every sportsman and every fellow ington Post that the time has come for with a little spray in his nerves is delighted over the news that another battle for the America's Cup is in sight off Sandy Hook. Work on the " third leaf " to complete the perfect Shamrock, as Sir THOMAS LIPTON so beautifully puts is already far advanced. Although Watson has refused to build another Cup challenger, he has consented to take a hand in the game. In other words, he and FIFE have twisted themselves into a committee of two on lines. To borrow from the Captain of the Genesta, " Good luck to them! They will need it all."

Judging from our recent experience with Constitution, Columbia and Shamrock II., the stock of lines seems to be pretty nearly exhausted. But chi lo sa? as they say in Cherry street. If the old lines are all used up, new ones can be procured and fashioned to take even a more gentle hold of the water.

To the inexperienced eye there is a wonderful sameness in the type or types of modern racing yachts. But, after all, no two spoons are exactly alike, and the leaves of all shamrocks have different outlines.

What glorious sport is in store for us next summer! That ghostly thing, practically untried, the Constitution, will doubtless appear again, and Shamrock II. will be overhauled sufficiently to remove all the hard luck from her hull, and, that done, she will prove to be a mighty tough " trial horse " for the newcomer. According to loud and lusty rumors, another Cup defender will be launched, so that we shall have a fleet of giants big enough to warm the hearts of the most enthusiastic salts afloat. While patiently waiting for next summer, the lovers of sails and sticks on both sides of the Atlantic will toast Sir THOMAS the Bold.

The election in Vermont discloses two very creditable sentiments among the Green Mountain people: They have considerable desire to escape from the law of prohibition. and there seems to be no material decline in the strength of Republicanism.

Although Tammany Hall is full of troubles seems to be increasing in membership The portion of the Greater New York De mocracy that has rallied around the Hon. JACOB CANTOR appears to be attaching itself o the old guard that represents RICHARD CROKER, and the portion controlled by Mr. JOHN SHEERAN is flocking to the support of the anti-Croker champion Mr. JOHN CARBOLL.

The Hon. FOSTER M. VOORHEES, someime Governor of New Jersey, has been taking a sensible and an admirable vacation. For three weeks he has been riding, with a companion, in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. There is no better way of seeing the country and teaching the liver a lesson. For those who can't or won't ride a long country drive is to be commended. The Hon. GEORGE FRISHIE HOAR has a very good notion of a vacation In September or October he drives through the Berkshires or other engaging Massa-

CONVENTION PLANS UPSET.

Croker's Retirement Endangers the Success of Firemen's Visit.

dissatisfaction among the men of the Fire Department over the "relieving" of Chief Croker by Commissioner Sturgis is increasing as the time for the annual convention of the International Association of Fire Engineers draws near. The association will bring more than 700 delegates to New York for its session, which begins on Sept. 13 and ends Sept. 19. Chief Croker has had personal charge of the preparations, which were begun more than year ago. Now he is permitted to take o part in these plans and at the last minute the Citizens' Committee finds itself at sea.

"Commissioner Sturgis knew the big convention was coming," said a captain or a downtown engine company, vesterday, and it looks as though he had picked out this time to humble the Chief. The department rules allow only the Chief to serve at the head of the Citizens' Committee, and there is, practically speaking, no chief at present. We are going to have chiefs here from all over the United States and from abroad and they are going to find this department of which they've heard so much in a pickle."

The original plans for the convention, which were most elaborate, practically have been abandoned. Its chief feature was to have been a big department parade down Fifth avenue and Broadway. The parade has been given up. There were to have been other features, water tests, life-saving and ladder tests and a drill by all the fireboats, but many of these have been abandoned also.
At present, the plans for receiving the

convention are most indefinite

The Question of Pastoral Visits. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Neither our editorial on "The Relations of the Clerey With Women," nor Dr. Van De Water defines what the relation of a pastor should be with the women members of the flock.

As THE SUN clearly intimates, if it were not for the women and their worshipful spirit the churches would decay and be no

It is very hard to define, in all instances, the proper relation of the pastor to certain of his flock. Men nowadays, with their minds much occupied with business matters, do not care to bother with church affairs, but leave that work to their wives, sisters and mothers. In olden times, polemical preaching was

care to bother with church analis, but leave that worktotheir wives, sisters and mothers.

In olden times, polemical preaching was the order of the day, but now doctrinal sermons are almost a thing of the past, and, from "Dan to Bersheba," in all the various denominations, the ethical side of the Gospelis emphasized. Hence, there is less need for a minister to go around and explain the meaning of various statements, &c.

With the aid of books, magazines, the public press and many other agencies, the women in a particular congregation, and people in general, have become more and more enlightened. Accordingly, the clergyman, if he "feeds the people" must stay at home: that is, spend much time in his study. If he spends his time is pastoral visitation he is robbed of time that he should put in is studying. How can a clergyman 'hold down' a congregation in which there are critical schoolma'ms, technical lawyers, exact physicians and concise business men, if he does not study? The ministers who "live in their studies" become the most powerful and useful servants of God.

Only in case of sickness, death or trouble, ought a minister be expected to "call" or be brought into relation with the female members of his flock. The male members, too, ought to take a more active interest in the life and work of the Church. Then the minister will not be tempted to call upon the women to get their assistance in church work. But actually, the men throw all the work over on the women: and it is perfectly natural that the minister, who is the head of the Church (in its visible aspect), should consult with the real workers.

Let the churches form a "merger," do away with pastoral visitation and thus remove the cause: the effect will finally disappear. Pastoral visitation in this enlightened age is "out of date." If the men and the women will do a little more missionary work they will save, in many instances, the good name of men and women and the reputation of the Church, and avoid bringing the clerical profession into ridicule or di

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I see that Hugh J. Carroll of Pawtucket, R. I., is denouncing the Clan-na-Gaels through your columns. I would like to know just what reason he has for denouncing the Clan-na-Gaels at this time. I think that if you will look into the matter the reason is that he has been invited to leave that body and he wants as many to go out with him as possible. That's a way he has in almost all things. Let us hear more from this Rhode Islander who has to go to New York for the hearing denied to him where he is well known.

LOWELL, Mass., Sept. 2. J. SMITH. columns. I would like to know just what

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Allow me through THE SUN, to urge on all true friends of Ireland the adoption of Mr. Hugh Carroll's advice. He expresses the hope that all physical-force Irishmen "will disconnect themselves from 'Headquarters,' form themselves into local bodies, and do away

with oaths."

The Irish people, through their leaders, nave appealed to us to help them in this constitutional agitation. It is impossible for true ove to turn away from such an appeal.

Brooklyn, Sept. 2. Michael Corcoran.

Dangerous Artillery Practice.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Sunday, Aug. 3t, I was a passenger on the excursion steamer Maine, going from Greenpoint, L. I., to Newport, R. I., and there must have been about two thousand passengers on board. About I o'clock in the afternoon, when we were about nine or ten miles south of Fisher's Island, heavy gunfiring was started from the shore and four struck the water, as near as I could calculate, within forty feet of the steamer, calculate, within forty feet of the steamer, splashing water on the deck, and two shells went directly over the steamer. When the pilot gave a distress whistle all the passengers were in a panic and much alarmed for their safety. Can The Sun give an explanation why such reckless gunnery should be permitted to take place, thus jeopardizing so many lives on a crowded excursion boat? I believe this matter should be thoroughly investigated so that no similar occurrence should ever happen again. Is it not a clear violation of the rules of the War Department to practise gunnery on Sunday?

New YORK, Sept. 2.

W. A. COY.

The Little Boy and the Apple.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I send you an account of an actual occurrence: Two worried-looking little boys, 5 and 6 response ively, sat under an apple tree, in the orchard just across the road from their home. Little Bob, deeply absorbed, and with a Little Bob, deeply absorbed, and with a look of discretion almost too great for his innocent little face, laid his hand gently on his brother's arm.

"What is 'oo crying for, Fweddy?" asked little Bob.

"Because mamma is got a headach!"

Then followed a short period of serious contemplation. Little Bob suddenly had an idea.

"I know what to do!" he application.

idea.
"I know what to do!" he exclaimed, "'Oo is bigger than me, so 'oo take this nice, red apple, and frow it up to God and He will make mamma all better!"

HOBOKEN, Sept. 3.

View of the Meliorists.

think that the poor are getting richer, and pessi

mists may believe that the poor are getting poorer,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str. Optimists may

but meliorists, looking squarely at problems to be solved, consider hasty generalizati SARATOGA SPRINGS, Sept. 2. J. O'B. LOWRY.

Team and Teamster. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your chamonship of the terms "one horse team" and "borse and team" do credit to your intellectuals as well as your heart. Cannot a "teamster" drive a oneas your heart. Cannot a 'teamater drive a one-horse wagon? How could he do it if a one-horse wagon was not a "one-horse team"? "Wait till I hitch up my team," is an expression used in this horse community by men who thereupon proceed to hitch up anything from a one-horse "buggy" to a twenty-four-horse band wagon.

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 31.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Statistics should show that 30 per cent. of our rice crop is not used in the production of beer. In this fair city alone the consumption is enormous. Steamboats, rice-laden, line the leves and transfer this produc-to the local breweries. EMIL DUTBENIT.

MAYOR LOW BACK AT WORK. Will Talk About Sturgis-Croker Dispute

Later-Nothing to Say to Jerome Yet. Mayor Low returned to his desk in the City Hall yesterday after a vacation lasting nearly four weeks. Among the heads of departments who called upon him was Fire Commissioner Sturgis. Mr. Sturgis had a long conference with the Mayor and afterward went to lunch with him. In the afternoon the Mayor received the City Hall reporters in a body. They were informed that the Mayor merely desired to shake hands with them, but after this exercise

they asked some questions.
"Has Commissioner Sturgis made you acquainted with the situation in the Fire Department?" was asked first.
"The Commissioner" said the Mayor.

Department?" was asked first.

"The Commissioner," said the Mayor,
"will make a detailed report to me just as
soon as circumstances will permit. That
report I will make public. When the public
gets that report I think it will be satisfied."

The Mayor refused to discuss District
Attorney Jerome's statement that poolrooms and gambling houses had increased,
but he intimated that this was a subject upon which he would have something to say later. He would not comment upon the deadlock over the Pennsylvania tunnel franchise either, except to express the hope that both sides would ultimately

reach an agreement.

Asked if he thought the plan to tax real estate at its full value could be carried out so as to do away with all inequalities of taxation, Mr. Low replied: "I think the plan will justify itself, but for the moment I don't carre to comprent upon it."

plan will justify itself, but for the lift of the lift Republican County Committee. His was described as "merely a social call."

ENGLISH AT RUSSIAN COURT. zar Tells a Naval Officer That They Use

Russian Very Little. PATERSON, Sept. 3.—Deputy Tax Receiver Charles May has received a letter rom W. W. Booth, chief engineer on the United States cruiser Albany, in which the writer gives an interesting description of a visit paid by the Czar and a number of court nobles and ladies to the ship while

it lay at Cronstadt on Aug. 9. Mr. Booth writes that the Czar showed great interest in the engineering departnent and was so unassuming and agreeable that the writer almost forgot that he was talking to the Czar of all the Russias

Mr. Booth further writes: Mr. Booth further writes:

"The Czar speaks perfect English, and in fact his questions were so well put and showed such knowledge of the subject that I said to him, 'I notice, your Majesty, that you speak perfect English.' You can imagine my surprise when he answered by saying: Yes, we speak English entirely at home, using Russian but very little

DRAKE'S REMAINS MOVED. Body of Discoverer of Petroleum to Be

Reinterred Under a Monument. BETHLEHEM, Pa., Sept. 3.-The remains of Col. Edwin Laurentine Drake, the discoverer of petroleum, which were laid to rest in 1880 in Misky Hill Cemetery, were removed from there to-night and taken to Titusville, Pa., where, on Aug. 26, 1859, he pumped oil from the first well driven for the purpose and where the grateful residents of that and adjoining places have erected a suitable and massive memorial.

The remains will be reinterred at the base of a monument and the burial cere-mony will be witnessed by the public offi-cials and the residents of the Pennsylvania oil country

CITY ASSESSED UNFAIRLY.

Justice Steckler Sends Back the Report in the 250th Street Case.

Justice Steckler yesterday returned for correction the report of the commission appointed to condemn land and levy assessment for the opening of part of West 259th street. Van Cortlandt Park was in part within the area benefited, and the city was assessed \$7,572.95. Justice Steckler finds that this assessment is a third higher than that against private property and says that such city property cannot be assessed more, but may be assessed less than assessed \$7,572.95. Justice rivate property since its value is y restriction for park purposes.

Crop Bulletin for New York State The New York section of the climate and crop service of the Weather Bureau, in ecoperation with Cornell University issued the following crop bulletin for

issued the following crop bulletin for the week ending Sept. 1:

The weather was cool the first half of the week and very warm during the latter half. Very dry weather prevailed, but scattered, light showers occurred throughout the State. It was very favorable for farm work. Haying and harvesting are nearly finished: threshing is in progress in some sections. Fall ploughing has begun and the second crop of hay is being cut. Corn has improved somewhat, but the prospect is very poor. A good yield of wheat, rye and barley and an enormous yield of oats are reported. The warm, dry weather of the past week has improved hops somewhat. Potatoes are generally reported to be blighted and rotting but some sections report a good yield and good quality. Beans are improving, but are still light and small, and there is some complaint of rust. Peaches are very light. Grapes are generally reported as rotting badly. Plums vary, being reported plentiful in places and poor in others. Buckwheat continues to improve, and the outlook is generally promising. Pastures are good. Pears are variously reported, but the prospect is for a good crop. Apples vary greatly, but have improved during the past week. Some correspondents report a full crop, while others estimate it from very light to fair. On the whole, conditions point to a crop considerably less than the average. Tobacco has improved and cutting is now in progress. week ending Sept. 1:

42.197.789.824 of Money in Circulation. WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.-The total stock of money of all kinds in the United States on Sept. 1, as reported by the Treasury Department, was \$2,579,306,217, being an increase of \$67,446,684 over that on the same date last year. The amount in circulation was \$2,197,89,824, which, based on an estimated population of 19,344,000, is a per capita of \$28.55. The per capita on Sept. 1, 1901, was \$28.18, and on the same date in 1900 was \$26.85.

Lake Success and the Town of North Hempstead.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Ser: The appeared of late in several of the New York city and Nassau county papers articles in regard to the proposed sale of Lake Success, in which it has been stated that the officials of North Hempstead have received an offer of \$75,000 for the lake from a syn dicate of wealthy men, who, it is said, wish to stock the lake for the purpose of establishing a fishing preserve. To correct these erroneous statements and that the votes may be in a position intelligently to vote upon this important question.

I beg to state that no such offer has been received me, or has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk. Nor has any official offer been made for any sum by any person or "syndicate" other than

Cierk. Nor has any official offer been made for any sum by any person or "syndicate" other than the offer of \$50,000 now on file in the Town Clerk's office, made by Mr. Vanderbilt. There will come before the voters of North Hempstead at the coming special election, in addition to the proposal of Mr. Vanderbilt's attorney, a resolution, which, if adopted, will authorize the authorities to sell Success Lake, within six weeks after the election, for a sum of not less than \$50,000, and any party wishing to purchase the lake for \$75,000, or for any other sum not less than \$50,000 will then have an opportunity of doing \$0.

If the electors do decide to sell the lake it is to be hoped that they will adopt the latter resolution rather than Mr. Vanderbilt's, as it leaves the town officials free to accept the best offer obtainable.

There will also be submitted to the voters three uses to which it has been suggested the proceeds of the sale of the lake, if sold, shall be put, namely; (1,) That a sum of not more than \$12,000 be used for the purpose of purchasing a site and erecting a town hall with fire-proof vaults for safely preserving the town records, and also containing offices for use of the Town Clerk and other town officials. (2,) That a sum of not more than \$13,000 be used for purchasing three public shore from seed the inhabitants of the town. (3.) That the balance of the sum so received from the sale of the lake be used to pay town road bonds as they mature. All of these propositions and resolutions are independent of each other and may be voted upon separately. The electors will, in addition, be called upon to decide whether or not a trolley line shall be constructed upon certain bighways in the town, and whether or not a small piece of public land lying near the North Side School shall be sold.

District Commissioners to Grant Authority

to the G. A. R. Committee. WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. - The District Com missioners have granted authority to the committee in charge of the G. A. R. encampment in Washington in October to hold automobile races on a mile straight- and among other farms burned over was away course on a straight street. The committee will soon issue a formal invitation to the Automobile Club of America to give its sanction to the race, and join with the local body in supervising and controlling the contest.

Although the selection of a street for the races has not been formally made, the committee has practically abandoned the idea of holding the meet on Pennsylvania avenue, for, although that thoroughfare is very wide and would otherwise prove an ideal course for the races, the straight away stretch from the Peace Monument to the Treesury Pennsylvania to the Treesury Pennsylvania to the Areasury Pennsylvania away a reliable. to the Treasury Department is only a mile, and, allowing for a flying start and several squares in which to slow down, would make the course too short. Fifteenth street lected, and, while not so wide as the avenue. is straightaway and smooth. It is con-fidently expected that the mile automobile record will be broken.

DILLON IS NOT RETIRING. The Former Mayor of New Rochelle Still

Potent in the County Committee. WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Sept. 3 .- The report that ex-Mayor Michael J. Dillon of New Rochelle was to retire from Democratic politics in Westchester county owing to the revelations brought about by the investigation of his administration by Columbus O'Donnell Iselin was declared to-day to have been premature. The ex-Mayor, who has just returned from

Saratoga, says that he has no thought of retiring.

He is still County Committeeman from New Rochelle. Yesterday he attended the meeting of the Democratic County Committee at White Plains, and his friend and counsel, ex-Senator Charles P. McClelland of Dobbs Ferry, was elected chairman of the committee. A call was issued for the Democratic County Convention to be held in White Plains on Oct. 6.

The Board of Aldermen of New Rochelle

last night adopted a resolution thanking Mr. Iselin for making the investigation.

CONTEST OVER E. N. MARKS WILL 14-Year-Old Niece Who Was Left Out Sues for Part of Gambler's Estate.

Objections to the probate of the will of Edward N. Marks, proprietor of the Pennsylvania Club at Long Branch, who died recently leaving upward of \$500,000, were filed in the Surrogate's Court vesterday by A. H. Hummel, as special guardian of the niece of the testator, fourteen-year-old Edna Isabella Marks. Among the grounds alleged for the rejection of the will are that the testator was unduly influenced and was not of sound mind. The estate was left by will to relatives and friends, and the contesting niece was not mentioned. She is a daughter of Mrs. Charles McLellan of Bath, Me., by her mother's first marriage to Abraham Marks, a brother of the

MUTUAL RESERVE LIFE DEMURS To a Tennessee Request for the Appoint

ment of a Receiver. The Mutual Reserve Fund Life Insurance Company has filed in the United States Circuit Court a demurrer in the action begun by James Polk and twelve other Tennessee policyholders, who asked for the appoint-ment of a receiver of the company's assets. The plaintiffs alleged fraud and collusion on the part of the directors to conceal the real financial state of the company.

The company demure on the grounds, among others, that upon the complainants' own showing they are not entitled to the relief prayed for: that the complainants have no legal capacity to maintain the action, and that it appears from the face of the bill of complaint that the company is solvent.

Movements of Naval Vessels

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. - The training ship Topeka has arrived at Hampton Roads, at Sheerness and the gunboat Isla de Luzon at Singapore. The collier Hercules has sailed from Norfolk for Wilmington, N. C., the gunboat Marietta from Curaçoa for La Guayra; the training ship Newport from New London for Narragansett Pier. The cruiser San Francisco has arrived at the

New Church for St. Malachi Parish

Plans have been filed for a new church of brick and granite to be built for St. Malachi Roman Catholic parish at 239 to 245 West Forty-ninth street. The building is to cost \$15,000.

University of London Degrees.

From the Atlantic Monthly. It is to be regretted that the work of the Universty of London is not better known in America, for the history of that institution is full of suggestion for educational reformers in this country. It was established in 1828, mainly in the interests of Nonconformists, who at that time were prevented by theological restrictions from graduating at Oxford or Cambridge. At first it imposed upon applicants for its degrees the condition of previous study in one of a number of affiliated colleges, but in 1858 its examinations were thrown open to all comers, with the exception of women. Twenty years later this restriction was removed, the University
of London being the first academic body in Great Britain to ignore the distinction of sex.

One of its most notable features has been the

severity of its examinations, which has naturally

made its degrees eagerly coveted. It has been by no means unusual for 50 per cent. of the candidates to be rejected at an examination. The result is that a B. A. pass degree at London is every where regarded as a much better evidence of ability and education than a similar degree at Oxford or Cambridge. The London M. A. has also a value of its own, for it is earned by an examination in which none but specialists have any chance of success, instead of being conferred, as in the case of the Oxford or Cambridge M. A., upon all bachbooks and paid their dues for a prescribed period. The very difficulty of obtaining a London degr made the ambition to gain it attractive, from the first, to many able men. Among those who, but for the existence of this university, would never have had an opportunity of wearing any academic distinction at all except, of course, for the honor-ary degrees conferred upon some of them when they had already made their reputation—may be mentioned such men as Lord Herschell George Jessel, among lawyers: Lord Lister, Sir. Richard Quain, Sir Henry Thompson, Str J. Ru Reynolds, Str William Jenner, and Str W. W. Gull, among surgeons and physicians; R. W. Dale, A. Maclaren and W. F. Moulton, among theologians: Walter Bagehot and W. Stanley Jevons, among conomists; and Richard Holt Hutton among tous

Duties of a Workhouse Porter

From the London Dally Mail. The porter of the Mere (Witshire) ecently wrote to the guardians for an increase of salary, which then stood at £14 per annum: "I am gate porter, storekeeper, caterer, brass polisher, assistant gardener, assistant nurse, mortuary ttendant, tramp and labor master, fumigate harber, messenger, ladles' halrdresser, &c. just balanced my small accounts for the twelve months, and find, after buying clothing and other necessaries for the purpose of making myself presentable enough to attend the gate, board room and church with the inmates, that I am minus th means to have a little relaxation from the monotony of workhouse life." The guardians have increased his salary to £16.

Madeleine's First Married Couple. From the London Daily Mail

At the Madeleine to-day M. and Mme. Nicola celebrated their diamond wedding. who has charge of the lamps at the Hotel de Ville is 88 years of age, and his venerable spouse is 81. Four generations of descendants—in all nearly a hundred-clustered round them to-day to celebrate the sixtleth anniversary of their marriage. They were the first couple to be married at the Made-leine after the definite consecration of the historic church in 1842. Notwithstanding their advance age, both the old people are active and cheery,

AUTO RACES IN WASHINGTON. FOUND IRON ORE ON HIS FARM A Forest Fire That Disclosed a Bonanza

to Farmer Hickey of Diana, N. Y. Utica, Sept. 3 .- Thomas Hickey, a Diana, Lewis County farmer, has made a valuable discovery on his farm. Two years ago there were large forest fires in that region Hickey's. The timber was burned off and the fires was so severe that even the muck was burned down to the rock. While looking over his farm to see u no find earth enough to plant anything on find earth enough to plant anything on looking over his farm to see if he could he discovered traces of iron ore. He kept his secret to himself and bought for a song the mineral rights long held by the Magnetic Iron Ore Company. Then he traced the veln 120 feet by 40 rods wide. Secur-ing the services of an expert and drilling ing the services of an expert and drilling down eight feet he found that the ore was at least that depth. It was analyzed and found to contain 70% per cent of pure magnetic iron. There are nearly 100,000 tons of this in sight. He has also discovered a large vein of Franklinite ore, which very valuable and of which there is o one other known mine, that being in Sussex county, N. J. Mr. Hickey has been offered and refused \$50,000 for his rights.

GERMAN POSTAL EXPERT HERE. Will Report on American Mail, Telephone and Telegraph Systems.

Herr Siegfried Wernecke, an Imperial Post Councillor from Leipsic, Germany, s here to inspect and report on the postal, telegraph and telephone systems of this country. Herr Wernecke has two assist ants, Post Councillor Brown and Tele graph Engineer Feyerabend. They will attend to the telephone and telegraph systems. They are now in San Francisco and Herr Wernecke will meet them in Chicago later in the month. Herr Wernecke is at the Hotel Majestic.

Yesterday he met Postmaster Van Cott and was shown over the General Post Office. He said that the Berlin post office was a much finer building, with splendid accom-modation for the clerks, but admired the American sorting system and marvelled at the amount of business done here.

NEGRO BOOK EXPERT DROWNED. William H. Ash, an Employee of the Put-

nams. Dies on His Vacation. William H. Ash, a negro employed in the book store of G. P. Putnam's Sons in Twenty-third street, was drowned Sat urday while bathing alone in Lake Sunapee, N. H., where he was spending his vacation. His body was found within four feet of the dock. His employers were notified and they arranged for a burial at Newport, N. H.

Ash was something of a celebrity among book buyers. He was an unusually bright negro and spent so many years in the empl of the Putnams that he came to be known for his acquaintance with rare volumes and editions. His mother, with whom he lived at Winfield, L. I., died a few months ago. Ash was 29 years old.

WOULD RESTRICT HIGHWAYS. Jersey Freeholders Would Drive Automo

biles From the Public Roads. NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Sept. 3 .- A rese lution was introduced at the meeting of the Middlesex County Board of Freeholders his afternoon forbidding to automobiles the use of the county roads, excepting between the hours of 10 A. M. and 4 P. M. Between those hours the autos are to be restricted to a speed of fifteen miles an

Freeholder Cox of the Road Committee who introduced the bill, said that the machines have made it impossible for farmers to use the roads at night. The penalty provided in the resolution is a \$50 fire. The resolution was referred to the solicitor of the board to be put in proper legal form

The Alabama's Surgeon Gave His Life for the Wounded.

From the London Spectator SIR: Your review of the life of Admiral Winslow, U. S. Navy, recalls an episode in connection with the sinking of the Alabama. connection with the sinking of the Alabama, which is full of quiet heroism. The surgeon of the Alabama was a young Englishman named Lleweiyn, who, when his vessel was seen to be sinking, removed all his wounded men into the only available boat. One of the wounded is reported to have called out. "There is room for you, doctor!" He simply answered: "You are as many as the boat can safely hold; push off." They pushed off and saved the wounded, whilst he went down with the ship. A memorial of his noble off and saved the wounded, whilst he well down with the ship. A memorial of his noble self-sacrifice is to be found in Charing Cross Hospital, to which he had been attached. E. S.

The Reading of the Bible.

From the Church Econ THE SUN recently maintained that people were reading the Bible less than formerly, giving as proof the less frequent quotations one may now hear or read in current literature. This conten-tion is plausible, for we think it is a fact that quota ions from the Bible are not as common now as they once were. But there are other elements in

the problem that should be considered. Certainly more Bibles are sold to-day than ever before. Still, it may be said, "Yes, the Bible is bought, but is it read?" Let us see about that. One great cause of the increase in the sale of Bibles is the spread of the modern Sunday school In this phase of church work millions of teachers and scholars gather for the express purpose of Bible study. The various church societies, such as the Christian Endeavor, make up another vast

Bible reading public. Of late years what are called responsive readings have greatly spread among non-liturgical congregations. This results in Bible reading on

a very large scale.

The prevalence of Bible conferences, and of large Bible institutes and classes, bespeaks a wide spread study of the Bible. Many thousands fre quent these conferences, and their programmes of Bible study are followed by a multitude who can not attend. Last September over 2,000 churches observed "Bible Study Sunday," under the auspices of the Institute of Sacred Literature, and in many instances these churches followed regular course

As to "family prayers" and "closet devotions we suspect there is a relative decline in set hour and forms. The early suburban train is a great fee to family prayers.

We freely admit that systematic Bible reading at home needs encouragement. As will be seen by reference to "Letters to the Editor," the Rev J. Elmer Russell asks for help from the experience of others in getting the membership of a church to read their Bibles more faithfully Chance for the Individual Man as Good as Ever.

From an Address by Albert Shaw at the Forty Quarterly Convocation of the University of Chic I propose to-day to say something about position and prospects of the average young t in the face of vast current and impending change in economic and industrial society. that there are prevalent just now two kinds of in terest and anxiety in view of the enormous trans-

tions that are taking place about us. Let me say at once, to relieve suspense, and not to carry any needless air of gloom, that I for one da not believe in the least that there is any real shrink age of opportunity in life for the worthy man, or that the new conditions really threaten

the prospects of the individual.

Smyrna fig raising has at last been at established in California on a large scale on t Stanford ranch at Vina, by the employment of t biastophaga as an agent for the fertilization of fruit. The fruit is reported to be of an excellent quality, and the industry of fig raising and curies is now to be prosecuted on an extensive scale. This means a valuable addition to the State's industri and the production of an article of commerce for which there exists a market the world over. I be to date this market has been almost wnolly sup

Queer Case of Overflow to Population.

From the Topeka Capital How many are there in a sextet? We though six, but every day some new girl is mentioned the papers who was one of the originals in the Florodora" sextet. Fully three hundred have

been rounded up so far. Brief and Tragic. Knicker-She turned up her nose at his violets ker-And what did Cholly de!

Knicker-Turned up his toes to the d